

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-13 without prejudice or disclaimer and add the following new claims.

1-13. CANCELLED

14. (New) A joint formed at a junction between adjacent boards, the joint comprising:

a first board, comprising an upper surface, a lower surface and a groove;

a second board joined to the first board, and comprising an upper surface, a lower surface, a tongue, a first equalizing cavity located adjacent to an upper end of a proximal end of the tongue, wherein a distal end of the tongue is smaller than a proximal end of the groove; and

a second equalizing cavity, formed by a gap between the proximal end of the groove and the distal end of the tongue.

15. (New) The joint of claim 14, wherein at least one of the first equalizing cavity and the second equalizing cavity extends to the lower surface of the second board.

16. (New) The joint of claim 15, further comprising glue disposed in at least one of the first equalizing cavity and the second equalizing cavity.

17. (New) The joint of claim 14, wherein the tongue comprises at least one guiding wedge on an upper surface or a lower surface thereof, whereby the at least one guiding wedge contacts an inner surface of the groove.